

Message Text

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - T E X T (T H R O U G H O U T)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, MASS, EAID, JO, US

SUBJECT: HUSSEIN VISIT

REF: A) USUN 01417, B) AMMAN 3357

1. WHEN I MET BRIEFLY WITH HUSSEIN APRIL 17, WE DISCUSSED HIS INTEREST IN A U.S. VISIT. HE ASKED ME IF I HAD ANY REPLY YET FROM CONVERSATION I HAD HAD WITH SHARAF LAST WEEK. I TOLD HIM NOT YET, BUT I WAS SURE THAT

WASHINGTON WAS GIVING IT FULL AND CAREFUL ATTENTION AND THAT WE WOULD HEAR SOON.

2. HE REITERATED WHAT SHARAF HAD TOLD ME ABOUT HIS HOPE TO HAVE GENERAL BIN SHAKER PRECEDE HIM TO WASHINGTON AND CLEAR UP MILITARY PROBLEMS IN THE JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION MEETING BEFOREHAND. HE ALSO SAID THAT JORDAN HAD FULLY AND COMPLETELY REVIEWED THE U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO ISRAEL AND WOULD BE FOCUSING ITS ATTENTION ON THE WAYS IN WHICH WE PROVIDED SUCH ASSISTANCE, THE LEVEL OF OUR GENEROSITY, AND THE SPECIFIC ITEMS WHICH WE HAD RELEASED. HE DID NOT TELL ME, BUT I BELIEVE THAT THIS STUDY WILL BE AT

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LEAST A PARTIAL BASE FOR A JORDANIAN REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.

3. GENERAL BIN SHAKER HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE ME WITH DETAILS OF THEIR STUDY OF THE ISRAELI PROGRAM. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WILL UNDERTAKE A REVIEW HERE OF THE OUTSTANDING JORDANIAN REQUEST FOR THE 1980'S, THE THREAT AS IT'S SEEN

FROM HERE, AND WAYS IN WHICH THE JUSTIFIED ELEMENTS OF THE REQUEST MIGHT BE MET OVER THE COMING YEARS. WE ALSO INTEND TO REVIEW THE ISSUE OF GUARANTEED CREDIT AND SUGGEST WAYS IN WHICH JORDAN MIGHT BETTER SEEK SUPPORT FOR THAT ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN ITS U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. WE BELIEVE THAT WHATEVER DATES ARE SELECTED FOR HUSSEIN VISIT, JORDAN'S CONTINUING AND HEIGHTENED PREOCCUPATION WITH ITS WEAKENING (IN COMPARATIVE TERMS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS) MILITARY POSITION WILL BE A CENTERPIECE.

4. HUSSEIN HAD HEARD NOTHING HIMSELF ABOUT POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE AT FORTHCOMING UN SSOD (REFTEL A). HOWEVER, HE INDICATED THAT IF VISIT TO U.S. GOES THROUGH AND HIS PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK ON THE 27TH OF MAY ARE MADE FINAL, HE SAW SOME ADVANTAGE ALSO IN ATTENDING THE SSOD. PICKERING

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